

FAMOUS PEACE TREATIES

By H. IRVING KING

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TREATY OF ST. PETERSBURG, 1772.

One of the Many Efforts to Straighten Out Poland.

Poland, having been taken off the map by a treaty, is now to be put back again by another treaty. In the latter part of the fourteenth century Poland was the dominant power in eastern Europe. Her dominion extended from the Baltic to the Dnieper and pressed down upon Austria to the south, while Red Russia, White Russia, Black Russia and the Ukraine were hers. Prussia was a little state huddled up in a corner on the Baltic, and surrounded on the other sides by Poland. Courland and Livonia were Polish provinces. The Prussians or Borussians, were an idolatrous tribe who indulged in human sacrifices and Poland called in the Teutonic knights to subdue them.

The Teutonic knights subdued the Borussians, but they turned Prussia into a militant little state which began at once wars to increase its territory. A Hohenzollern had himself elected head of the Teutonic knights and thus began the house of Hohenzollern, and that power destined to have such a large share in the downfall of Poland and to be such a menace to the world, sprung from a race of savages led by an adventurer.

As late as 1693, when the American colonies were already settled commonwealths, Poland was so powerful that her king, John Sobieski, marching with a Polish army, relieved the siege of Vienna and saved Europe from being overrun by the Turk.

Dynasty Came to an End.

With the death of Sigismund Augustus in 1572, the dynasty of the old kings came to an end and Poland adopted a system of elective kings, and a new constitution which worked out badly and contributed to the downfall of the nation. The Polish diet elected the king. It consisted of a chamber of peers and a house of representatives of the lesser nobles. The diet sat only six weeks each year and its decisions were obliged to be unanimous to be effective. Also there was a recognized right of any nobles confederating together to enforce their will by the power of arms. Naturally the result was discord and sometimes civil war. Russia, the growing Prussia and Austria fostered these internal disagreements with hungry looks on Polish territory.

A large number of Germans found

their way into the country, gathered to themselves business and industries and worked their propaganda.

In 1773 the election of Augustus III to the Polish throne was accomplished by open bribery and under the guard of Russian soldiers.

Poland Stirred to War.

But Poland did not die without a struggle. Kosciuszko, who had served under Washington during the American revolution, returned to the native country, inspired the spirit of patriotism into his fellow Poles and stirred all Poland into war against her oppressors. The Poles fought bravely and defeated the Russians in the fierce battle of Dubienka. But now a Prussian army entered Poland. Kosciuszko was defeated and Poland overrun. The Austrian troops had joined with the armies of Russia and Prussia and the three powers, in the face of the protests of the western powers and the outbursts of indignation from all upright men, proceeded to a third partition which gave to Prussia 22,000 square miles of territory with 1,100,000 inhabitants, to Russia 90,000 square miles with 3,000,000 inhabitants; Austria had been slow and got nothing this time. A general rising of the Poles followed and again the leader was Kosciuszko. Hordes of Russian and German soldiers were poured into Poland and at length, on October 10, at the battle of Maciejowice, Kosciuszko was defeated and taken prisoner, and "Freedom shrieked as Kosciuszko fell," wrote the poet Campbell. The victorious Austrians, Russians and Prussians now proceeded to finish their work by taking Poland off the map altogether. Of what they had not stolen before they proceeded to portion out to themselves the remnants of the kingdom was as follows: Russia, 45,000 square miles with 1,200,000 inhabitants; Prussia, 21,000 square miles with 1,000,000 inhabitants. Austria had taken part in this last subjugation of Kosciuszko and got 18,000 square miles with 1,000,000 inhabitants. The deal begun at the signing of the treaty of St. Petersburg on August 5, 1772, was completed. Poland ceased to exist. As full of crimes as history is it contains no record of such another cold-blooded crime by civilized and Christian powers as the annihilation of Poland.

TREATY OF PARIS, 1898

The Settlement After the Spanish-American War Required Four Months.

After all, it took four months after the signing of the armistice to sign a treaty with Spain after the Spanish war. And that was a comparatively simple affair with only two nations involved. The protocol, or armistice, was signed on August 12, 1898, and the treaty signed on December 10—four months lacking two days from the ceasing of hostilities. The treaty was not ratified by the senate until April 11 of 1899. So, theoretically, we were at war with Spain for a year lacking a few days, although actual military operations did not last many days over three months.

The principal events of the Spanish-American war most people remember. War was declared by Spain on April 24 and by the United States on April 25. There was a curious little exhibition of "Castilian pride" about that. Spain learned on April 24 that the United States was going to declare war the next day and promptly declared it herself. Another interesting point is that the United States began the blockade of a part only of the Cuban coast at first and began it two days before Spain declared war and three days before we declared it. And the American proclamation of war was made retroactive to April 21. Dewey entered Manila bay May 1 and destroyed the Spanish fleet there. Cervera's fleet got into Santiago on May 19, where it was bottled up by the fleet under Sampson and Schley—Sampson being senior officer. The American expedition landed at Daiquiri June 20-22, and the battles of El Caney and San Juan Hill took place on July 1-2. On July 3 the Spanish fleet attempted to escape and was destroyed in the naval battle of Santiago. Santiago surrendered on July 17 and the campaign in Porto Rico began on July 25, and was in progress at the signing of the armistice. Manila was captured on August 13, the day after the protocol was signed. Manila had been practically at the mercy of the Americans since the May morning on which Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet. It had been only a question of getting American troops there to occupy the place in sufficient force.

Spain Was Sullen.

Spain's attempt to stand against the power of the United States had everywhere resulted in disaster to the Spanish arms. Her fleets had been swept from the seas and her colonial possessions were in American hands. She could carry on no more war overseas, but threatened to sit sullenly at home and defy the United States still. But after the battle of Santiago the United States began preparing a fleet to

cross the Atlantic and attack the shores of Spain. As soon as it became evident that the purpose was a reality and not a bluff other European powers put "diplomatic pressure" on Spain to end the war. The prospect of American guns awaking the echoes of European hills was not looked forward to in 1898 with the eager pleasure that it was anticipated by some nations a year and a half ago. Spain did not need much urging, and on July 22 the Spanish minister of state transmitted through the French ambassador at Washington a letter to President McKinley asking for peace. This letter reached the president on July 23, and four days later the secretary of state, Mr. Day, replied, stating the terms upon which an armistice would be concluded. They were: The evacuation of Cuba by Spain and the relinquishment of all claims of sovereignty over that island; the cession of Porto Rico and all other Spanish West Indian islands to the United States; the cession to the United States of an island in the Ladroneas to be selected by the United States, and the occupation by the United States of the city and bay of Manila pending a treaty of peace which should determine the disposition of the Philippines.

On August 12 M. Jules Cambon, the French ambassador, signed on behalf of Spain the protocol, or terms of armistice, in which were embodied not only the demands stated but three other articles providing for the method of evacuating Cuba and Porto Rico. Fighting stopped. It was arranged that peace delegates should meet at Paris in October. Mr. Day resigned his office as secretary of state in order to accept an appointment as first delegate. The other delegates were Senators Davis of Minnesota and Frye of Maine, and Whitelaw Reid of New York. Spain sent a like delegation.

Philippines Stumbling Block.

The principal stumbling block was reached when the commissioners came to consider the Philippines. Having taken them and destroyed the only government in the islands the United States could hardly go away and leave them loose in the world, as it were. Other nations had envious eyes on them and stood ready to grasp the fruits of American success. Spain refused to give them up and threatened to break off negotiations. The United States made the cession of the islands an ultimatum and, "running true to form" in paying cash for what she had already obtained by conquest, offered Spain twenty million dollars if she gave them up. Spain yielded and the treaty was signed on December 10.

YOUNG HEROES AT OXFORD

Many Customs and Traditions of the University Are Likely to Seem Strange to Them.

The returning hero, fresh from battle fields, will no longer rush to the cricket fields and the river at Oxford with the zest of young barbarians at their play, observes a writer in the Nation (London). To one who may wear the ribbon of the Military Cross or the D. S. O., the position of his college boat in the eights can no longer seem the one matter of life and death, and even the halo of a goal shines with diminished glory.

So, too, in lesser pursuits. How shall he dwell upon the squabbles of compartments in ancient Greece, when he himself has motored from Saloniki to Athens in a day, and on to Sparta in the next? Or what will he feel when questioned on his fading memories of the irregular verbs? Probably most public school boys are haunted to old age by a dream—a terrible nightmare—of being "put on" by the old headmaster when they have not taken the trouble to prepare a line of the passage. It makes no difference that they are more than 50 and the headmaster has long been dead. The horror of the situation remains appalling, and the dream is far more frequent than any of Freud's imaginary perversions.

The feeling of the soldier returning to the class and lecture room will be much the same, with a sense of futility added. For, indeed, it is impossible to go back in life and second childhood is not like the first. Little vicissitudes play regardless of their doom, but not men who have known what doom can do.

PATRIOTS GET POOR REWARD

British Soldiers Who Won High Distinction Have a Right to Complain of Ingratitude.

Attention has been directed to the hard case of men who won distinction in the great war, and seem to have been forgotten, by two dramatic incidents. One is the public statement by Sir Douglas Haig that a demobilized officer who won the V. C., D. S. O., and M. C., is at present trudging the streets of London in search of work. The other is the announcement that Mr. Arthur Richings has rejoined the Cardiff police force as an ordinary constable, notwithstanding the fact that he has just relinquished the army rank of lieutenant colonel.

The latter's record is an astounding one. He was promoted second lieutenant on the field, and his subsequent promotions were astonishingly rapid. Mentioned in dispatches three times, he wears six wound stripes, the Mons Star, the Croix de Guerre (with palms), the Military Cross, and is also a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. Perhaps one may be pardoned for questioning whether there is not something wrong with an army administration which allows a man with an active service record like that to disappear into the decent obscurity of a police constable's tunic.—Montreal Family Herald.

Doing Him a Favor.

When my cousin, newly commissioned, was sent to Camp Grant he found himself in command of a lot of draft men drawn mainly from our slum district. One in particular took quite a fancy to him and never lost a chance of doing him a favor. One day after the man had been in camp only a week or so he ran breathlessly up to my cousin, who was in the far end of a trench. He remembered to salute after a fashion, then stood plainly trying to think what to do next. Finally he burst out, "Beat it, mister, while de goin's good. De boss is after youse, and gosh, he's sore!"

The colonel was at the other end of the trench calling for the officer in charge.—Chicago Tribune.

Paid a War Bet.

War bets are now being paid by the people who were wont to say, "You can't beat Germany." Morgan J. O'Brien, former judge of the Supreme court of New York, recently gave "the best dinner that money could buy" to Gen. Coleman Dupont and 25 of the latter's friends, because of a difference of opinion as to German prowess. The justice thought the allies could not get into Soissons last year by a certain date; the general was sure they could. They did; and the outcome for which Judge O'Brien paid a heavy bill, was called the "Soissons dinner."—The Outlook.

Chicago's Oldest Saloon.

When the dry law went into effect and Chicago's 6,000 saloons went out of business, it ended the career of Chicago's oldest saloon which was established in 1837, the same year Chicago was incorporated as a city. Since that time the business has passed through the hands of a family of four generations. Indian camps were a common sight in Chicago in those days. The city had about 5,000 inhabitants; to-day there are nearly 3,000,000 persons.

Preparedness.

"By the way, Mary, did you put my cooking outfit in that basket? I'll want to fry some fish for lunch."

"Yes, dear, and you'll find a tin of sardines in there, too."—Life.

Says Uncle Eben.

"Dat kaiser man," said Uncle Eben, "would have been tried 'n' sentenced long ago for shootin' craps or flourishin' a razor."

Legality and Levity

By REV. L. W. GOSNELL
Assistant Dean, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago

TEXT—That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit—Romans 8:4.

We have borrowed the above title from an old writer, C. H. Macintosh, author of the well-known "Notes on the Pentateuch." In an article under this caption he points out that many who have been delivered from legality descend into levity. From the one extreme of living in bondage to the law they pass to the other of "turning the grace of God into lasciviousness." It is about



this danger we would speak.

Let it be clearly understood that Christians should not live in bondage to the law, for, as Paul says, they "are not under the law but under grace" (Romans 6:14). Many, alas, do not understand this and pass their days with the spirit of slaves rather than with the spirit of sons.

Christian Liberty Only for Slaves.

We are bold to say, however, that even this spirit of bondage is better than a spirit of laxity which brings dishonor to the name of Christ. Here are words which might well be written in letters of gold: "It is a true saying that Christian liberty belongs only to slaves, and that none can safely be set free from law until they have become, under grace, the slaves of God. Better far remain in the 'barracks,' hedged in by law on every side, even with the daily grace lacking, than ever allow Christian liberty to degenerate into license." A man ruled by God requires no outward control, but others do. "Only the God-possessed man can be truly free in the Christian sense, and if God has not got his heart he had better stop behind legal walls and keep at this rate from dishonoring God. This is not the true Christian life, but it is a good imitation."

But let us rejoice that we do not need to stop behind legal walls in order to be safe, but can be both safe and free. One has put it in this fashion: "The Gentiles are without law, the Jews are under law, and Christians have the law of liberty, or love. That is, Gentiles have liberty and no law, Jews have law and no liberty, while Christians have both!"

The Doctor and His Dog.

We recently came across a homely illustration which we venture to quote verbatim. It is from Dr. A. T. Schofield, the well-known English specialist on brain and nerve diseases, who writes as helpfully on the life of the spirit as he does on physical and mental health. He says: "Some time ago I was the proud possessor of a beautiful collie called Jack. When he first came up to London, having never seen a crowded city before, he was wild with spirits, and would have dashed away, and I would never have seen him again had I not put him under law by the purchase of a strong collar with a dog chain attached. Now there are in London, as in the world of men, three classes of dogs: The strong dogs which have liberty and no law, and end their lives at Battersea; there are the respectable dogs, like mine, which have law but no liberty; and there is a third class of dog which occupies, one might say, the Christian position of law and liberty combined."

The Law of Love.

"Jack, my collie, soon got to know me, and one day after he had been with me for a few weeks I went down into the hall to take him out, and he put up his head as usual to have his chain fastened on his neck, but I said: 'No, Jack, no more chain.' I opened the door, and for the first time he bounded out free. He dashed away in the joyous possession of his new found liberty as if I should never see him more, but just then another law, of which he himself was unaware came into operation; he looked around, and then came trotting back to walk behind me. I had got his heart, and a dog will never run away from his own heart. The law of liberty is the law of love, and my dog was now chained to my side by the affection that he bore me. All his actions henceforth were governed by that glorious principle which James calls the law of liberty, which our Lord calls the New Commandment."

"The righteousness," i. e. the righteousness requirement "of the law (will) be fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

True Wayfaring Christian.

He that can apprehend and consider vice with all her baits and seeming pleasures and yet abstain, and yet distinguish, and yet prefer that which is truly better, he is the true wayfaring Christian.—John Milton.

Danger of Sin.

Sin is never at a stay; if we do not retreat from it, we shall advance in it; and the further on we go, the more we have to come back.—Barrow

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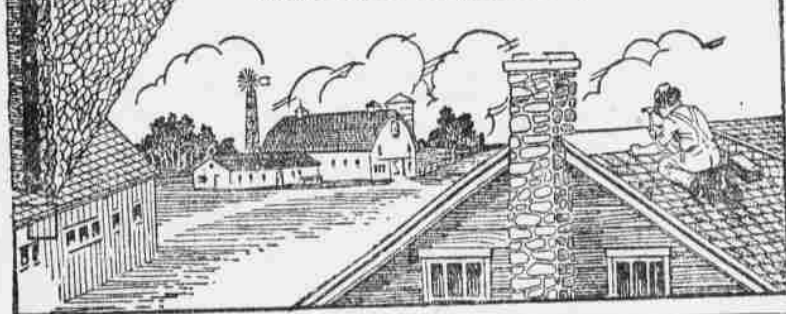
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Perhaps He Had Repented.

A funny one happened the other day in the office of a justice of the peace. A young couple were being married, surrounded by several friends. As usual, the ritual came to that place where the justice said:

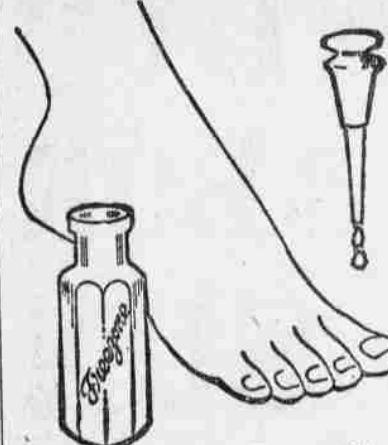
"Does anyone present know of any reason why this couple should not become man and wife?"

And to everybody's amazement, the groom spoke up, "I do."

As he said afterwards, "that's what comes of too many rehearsals."

Lift off Corns!

Doesn't hurt a bit and Freezone costs only a few cents.



With your fingers! You can lift off any hard corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, and the hard skin calluses from bottom of foot.

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No Pleasantries Attached.

"There will still be a use for corkscrews when the nation goes dry. Corks are found in other bottles besides those containing whisky."

"I dare say you are right," said Mr. Fagbly, gloomily, "but a cork puller of that kind will not be preceded by merry pulps and sparkling repartee, showing that joy is about to be unconfined."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Pity the misguided amateur gardener who tries to live on the vegetables he raises.

The Difficulty.

"I would like to take you apart, sir." "You can't. I'm no human puzzle."

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Whiling Away Leisure Hours.

"I wonder how much wood Wilhelm has really chopped."

"I dunno," answered Farmer Corn-tassel, "but I have a suspicion he didn't cut down enough to make a few good fashin' rods for hisself an' the boys."

It's Effect.

"How did you like the moving picture play?"

"I thought it was reel nice."

All Sound.

"Is your husband a sound sleeper?"

"Is he? You just ought to hear him snore."

Temperance is strength of mind.